

7063-0001-0

#9a 5/21/99  
T. Gray

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

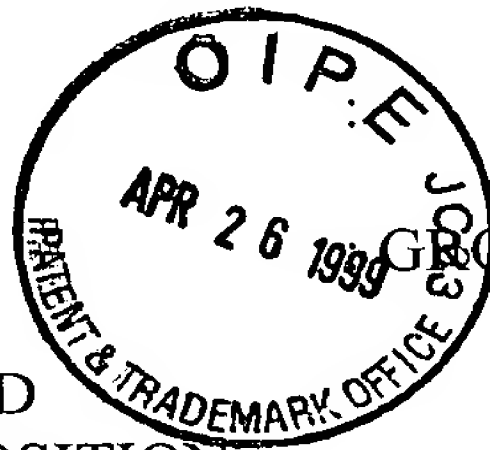
IN RE APPLICATION OF:

RENATA. M. A. C. VESELY ET AL

: EXAMINER: MINNIFIELD

SERIAL NO.: 08/813,776

FILED: MARCH 7, 1997



GROUP ART UNIT: 1645

FOR: STRAINS OF BACTERIA AND  
PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION  
CONTAINING ONE OR MORE OF  
SUCH STRAINS AND USE OF SAME FOR  
PREVENTING AND TREATING DISEASES  
ASSOCIATED WITH OR CAUSED BY  
ALTERED METABOLISM OF BILE ACIDS

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action dated January 25, 1999, Applicants respectfully  
request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following  
amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 7, lines 3-6, delete in their entirety and replace with:

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APR 27 1999

GROUP 1700

a' --The strains according to the present invention are gram-positive bacteria strains  
characterized by exhibiting: (a) a 7 $\alpha$ -dehydroxylase activity of less than 50%, and (b) a bile  
acid deconjugation activity of less than 50%, and belonging to a species selected from

31

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